



MEDIA RELEASE

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EMBARGO: Immediate

Knysna connects local business with the world

The installation of over 120km of fibre-optic cables will connect the entire Knysna municipal area with the rest of the world via high speed, wireless internet connectivity. This high speed connectivity will present unlimited potential for investment and economic growth.

“There is very little connectivity choice in Knysna and speeds are generally poor,” said Chairperson for the Governance and Economic Development Committee Councillor Esmé Edge. “This has been hampering business productivity and investment in our area.”

This situation is set to change as the roll-out of the high speed fibre network will take place over the next five years at an investment value of approximately R150 million. “This new network holds unlimited possibilities for business in, with, and from Knysna,” said Edge. “It will be on par with networks in big cities in terms of speed, connectivity and reliability.”

“Businesses outside the region, where connectivity is slower, may relocate to Knysna in order to make use of the newfound high internet speeds. And once they are connected to this network, they may start offering new services that were previously impossible to deliver along slower connections like remote support and call centre operations.”

“Professionals who currently commute between Knysna and larger centres will be able to spend more time here thanks to instant connectivity and the possibilities of video conferencing,” she continued. “Other businesses will be able to relocate or expand to Knysna as the high speed and real time nature of the fibre network will make it easy to stay on top of operations.”

“In short, this high speed, fibre-optic network will attract investment to the greater Knysna municipal area, allow business growth and facilitate new job creation,” she concluded. “It will help us to create a town where people and nature prosper.”

ENDS

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